

December 30, 2021

PRESS RELEASE  
PARTIAL CLOSURE OF CARNATION CITY HALL

As the highly-infectious Omicron variant spreads, new data shows that the numbers of new cases are rising very rapidly in our local community and across the U.S. now and will continue to rise over the next few weeks. Local public health leaders urge the King County community to prepare and do what we can during this holiday season to reduce the risk.

The highly infectious Omicron variant is moving at an astonishing speed, according to the latest projections. Public Health projects the number of King County cases to be higher than the highest peak we've seen previously in the pandemic. Public Health expects case numbers to continue to rise in January.

Seattle King County Public Health states that "The severity of Omicron cases is not clear at this time. Most fully vaccinated people should be protected from severe infection, but we expect to see many more serious cases in unvaccinated people, as well as many milder breakthrough infections among the vaccinated."

To be supportive to public servants in the medical sector, to listen to the guidance provided by County Public Health and to be consistent with neighboring cities, the Carnation City Hall located at 4621 Tolt Avenue will be partially closed for regular operations effective January 10, 2022.

"The public may still access City Hall on Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. City staff is available via appointment, email, virtually and by phone. Members of the public that wish to meet staff in person, most certainly can by making an appointment" said City Manager Cortez.

City staff will continue to work normal office hours from remote locations and at City Hall for appointments. For a directory of staff, visit <https://www.carnationwa.gov/citystaff>